



Lead Update

More Certified Lead Centers (CLCs) to serve lead poisoned children in the state.

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As of January 2003, Rhode Island will have FOUR certified statewide lead centers (CLCs) to provide comprehensive, non-medical case management to Medicaid children residing in any RI city/town with elevated blood lead levels. The entities and contact information is:

1. Blackstone Valley Community Action:

Jan Moore, 32 Goff Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02860, 401-723-4520 extension 234

2. Family Service of RI:

Kathleen Schlenz, 55 Hope Street, Providence, RI 02906, 401-331-1350 extension 158

3. HELP Lead Safe Center:

Jeremy Giller, 841 Broad Street, Providence, RI 02907, 401-781-4981

4. West Bay Community Action:

Tony Joseph, 205 Buttonwoods Ave., Warwick, RI 02886, 401-732-4660 extension 108

With the additional capacity, referrals are being expanded to reach a new group of children with lead levels (capillary OR venous) of Pb 15 to 19 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$, who have not been referred for an educational home visit or have not been significantly lead poisoned in the past. In this new group, CLCs will communicate and collaborate with the child's Primary Care Provider to focus on in-home education and case management for the families. In addition, this group will also be offered an environmental inspection of their homes through a certified lead inspector under contract with the CLCs. Results of the inspection will be shared with the family and homeowner and the CLCs will work with both to encourage lead hazard removal, including window replacement (for RIte Care eligible), if it is so confirmed through the environmental inspection. These new inspections, however, will not result in Health Department enforcement.

The group of significantly lead poisoned children (venous Pb $\geq 20 \mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ or two tests of $\geq 15 \mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ at least 90 days but not to exceed 365 days apart) will also be referred to lead centers and will continue to receive environmental inspections and enforcement through the Health Department.

The Department of Health's Family Outreach Program (FOP) will no longer be involved in the referrals for lead poisoned children. However, an appropriate strategy to serve the group with lead levels between 10 and 14 µg/dL will be soon designed and piloted. Details of such strategy will be shared with you, as details become available.

Referrals will be issued and prepared by the Department of Health. Distribution of referrals will be done following the Department of Human Services' guidelines, based on geography, as stated below. These guidelines assign approximately 60% of the referrals to the HELP Lead Safe Center, while the remainder 40% will be shared among the three new lead centers. However, each lead center will inform the families about the existence of the other centers and their right to choose among them. Distribution of referrals (as indicated by the RI Department of Human Services) will be made as follows:

Blackstone Valley Community Action (Cumberland, Lincoln, Burrillville, North Smithfield, Glocester, Smithfield, and Woonsocket)

Family Service of RI (Cranston, Johnston, Scituate, Foster, North Providence, Newport, Tiverton, Little Compton, Jamestown, East Providence, Barrington, Warren, Bristol, Portsmouth, and Middletown)

HELP Lead Safe Center (Providence, Pawtucket and Central Falls)

West Bay Community Action (Coventry, West Warwick, Warwick, West Greenwich, East Greenwich, Exeter, North Kingstown, South Kingstown, Narragansett, Charlestown, Westerly, Hopkington, Richmond, and New Shoreham)

In summary, referrals will be prepared as follows:

Children under 6 who:	Service	Status
Are "significantly lead poisoned"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive, non-medical case management provided by one of the lead centers; Comprehensive environmental inspection provided by a certified lead inspector through the Department of Health Technical assistance to remove lead hazards, which may lead to the issuance of a lead safe certificate or legal enforcement by the Department of Health 	Already in place
Have one lead test of 15 to 19 µg/dL (capillary or venous) and haven't been referred for a home visit or haven't been "significantly lead poisoned" in the past	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive, non-medical case management provided by one of the lead centers; Environmental inspection arranged by a certified lead inspector through the same lead center 	New group to be referred as of 1/2/2003

For additional information on the certification of lead centers, its funding, window replacement program, distribution of referrals contact Sharon Kernan, RI Department of Human Services, 600 New London Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920, 401-462-3392, sharonk@gw.dhs.state.ri.us

For questions regarding the environmental inspections, enforcement and other matters related to the lead hazard reduction, contact Rosemary Aglione, Environmental Lead Program Manager, RI Department of Health, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908, 401-222-7740 RosemaryA@doh.state.ri.us

For specific questions on the preparation of referrals and contacting the primary care providers about the new referrals contact Jodie Garnetto, Case Manager, RI Department of Health's Lead Program, 3 Capitol Hill Providence, RI 02908, 401-222-4634, JodieS@doh.state.ri.us